

**Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Harry S Truman Building, Room 850

Jefferson City, MO

October 14, 2009

MMPEC Members Present: Chairman Dalton Wright, Vice Chairman Representative Terry Witte, Senator Bill Stouffer, Representative David Day, Mr. Bob Welling, Mr. Jeff Bloemker, Mr. Kent Thomas.

MMPEC Members not Present: Senator Frank Barnitz

Guests: Trent Griffith, Boards and Commission Coordinator; Marcy Mealy, DED; Col. Dennis Sandbothe (Ret.), Missouri National Guard; Anne Payne, Missouri Veterans Commission.

Chairman Wright called the October 14, 2009 MMPEC meeting to order at 10:10am, in the Harry S Truman Building, Room 850, Jefferson City, MO.

At the prior meeting on October 1, 2009 at Whiteman AFB, Dr. Kerwin Urhahn, Executive Director of MSHSAA, presented the mission of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. The Commission asked Dr. Urhahn if MSHSAA could approve an 11<sup>th</sup> exemption to provide an exception for high school age children of "mission essential" military personnel.

Mr. Welling presented language that the MMPEC could present to MSHSAA for approval:

The high school age children of a military parent required to line on a military installation because that parent has been deemed "Mission Essential" Shall be eligible to participate in all MSHSAA activities in whatever Missouri public high school district the child enrolls.

Mr. Welling moved that the proposal be adopted as a consideration to MSHSAA for adoption and Senator Stouffer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There was discussion on how this proposal would be sent to Dr. Urhahn. The Commission decided that a letter from Chairman Wright would be sent on behalf of the Commission reiterating the points that have brought this matter to light and stating the proposal for MSHSAA membership approval.

Mr. Welling gave an update on the state and federal funding issue. In the case of a student attending a school out of district from the family's residency, neither state funding nor federal impact follows the student. After discussing the matter further with DESE officials, it has been determined that it will take legislative activity to change the rules and provide an exception for children of "mission essential" military personnel. Mr. Welling also made contact with staff of the Department of Education. Dr. Kristen Wallis-Rivas and was told that the federal impact aid follows the state funding.

Additionally there was discussion as to how the MMPPEC could pursue legislative action to change the rules for mission essential military members.

Vice Chair Representative Witte and Representative Day gave a report on their meeting with Ms. Mary Nelson, Director of Boards and Commission, Office of Governor. They met with Ms. Nelson to discuss the appointments for the State Council for the Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for

Military Children. They discussed the minimum requirements. Ms. Nelson suggested that clarification concerning the appointments and who made the appointments could be taken up legislatively. Vice Chair Witte and Representative Day volunteered to take up the issue with respective leadership. Another concern was the budget for the meetings, dues, and national conference. MMPEC had suggested that the MMPEC be appointed to fulfill the remaining requirements for the State Council. Then the Council could be staffed by DED as the State Council members met occasionally within a regular MMPEC meeting to conduct business.

Discussion was spent on passing a resolution stating the support for the MMPEC to be used as an existing commission with the set-up of the State Council for the Interstate Compact.

The next Interstate Compact is November 16-18, 2009 in LaQuinta, CA. The Compact Commissioner has the power to vote at the upcoming meeting. Whoever attends this year's meeting should have a clear understanding as to the function of the State Council and its purpose.

Senator Stouffer made the motion that the MMPEC recommends to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions Director, Ms. Mary E. Nelson, that the MMPEC be recognized as an existing council which could complete the requirements for appointing the State Council for the Interstate Compact. Mr. Kent Thomas seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously by members present: Chairman Dalton Wright, Vice Chair Representative Terry Witte, Senator Bill Stouffer, Representative David Day, Mr. Kent Thomas, Mr. Bob Welling and Mr. Jeff Bloemker. Absent from the meeting was Senator Frank Barnitz.

The MMPEC discussed having a resolution completed in the next 5 to 6 days and Representative Day and Representative Witte should hand deliver the resolution to the Governor's office. This should take place by November 1, 2009. Representative Witte and Dr. Schulte are to brief Dr. Nicastro, State of Missouri Education Commission, about the Interstate Compact. Lastly if the Governor appoints Dr. Nicastro to be Compact Commissioner, Dr. Nicastro can then send Dr. Schulte in her stead. Dr. Schulte is in this position until replaced.

The Commission reviewed last year's annual report and decided which pages needed updates. Mr. Griffith is to request submissions from the Reserves, National Guard, Rosecrans, Whiteman Air Force Base and Fort Leonard Wood. Information will need to be obtained from MERIC so that the economic impact of the military and defense industries in Missouri can be updated. Directives were given to update the legacy with military minded legislation passed during the 2009 Session.

Mr. Jeff Bloemker suggested that there be a joint meeting with the MMPEC and the Missouri Veterans Commission sometime near in the future.

Chairman Wright adjourned the MMPEC meeting at 1:50 pm.